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SOURCE German rightist politician.

Note: The significance of this report lies not so much in the information contained herein but in the fact that Otto Skorzeny and his aides readily revealed it to a group of German neo-fascists visiting Spain in 1951.

FINCKENSTEIN

- After Skorzeny left the U.S. internment camp in Darmstadt, he lived for a short while with one C. Ch. Heinz, then a member of the ultra-rightist Hessian NDP, at 11 Abeggstr. in Wiesbaden. From Wiesbaden he went to France and for eight months was billeted at a safe house by (fnm) Bortaux, then director of the Surete. When, after publication of the famous Skorzeny articles in the French Press, Bortaux was relieved as Surete chief, Countess Finkenstein, Skorzeny's one-time mistress and presently his alleged wife, travelled to Madrid and quickly received a residence permit for Skorzeny after a short conference with the Chief of the Spanish General Staff. Once in Madrid, Skorzeny was documented as a stateless engineer, one Rolf Steinbauer and assigned quarters at Lopez de Hoyos 72, Madrid, together with Countess Finkenstein. Since then Skorzeny has produced two plans for international military action against possible Communist aggression.
- Plan A concerns primarily Western Germany but could be utilized elsewhere. It calls for the activation of alert units among the people of every community in the country. Ostensibly, for the purpose of commitment in case of emergency, such as floods, earthquakes, riots, fires, etc., but the ultimate and hidden purpose is to prepare a militia against the day of Soviet aggression. The units are to be known as Katastrophenschutz (catastrophe protection). According to Skorzeny the plan has been submitted to Dr. Robert Lehr, West German Minister of the Interior, and the latter agreed to support the enterprise. Hans Weiss, a former Colonel in the German Air Force and one-time Inspector General of the German bomber force, now residing at 22 THW Krueper Weg, Flensburg, Schleswig-Holstein, is scheduled to head the organization. Weiss was one of the Germans who recently visited Skorzeny in Madrid. He returned to Germany with a complete plan for activation of the militia units.

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3. Plan B is Skorzeny's now well-known plan for activation of commando type units, consisting of 300 anti-Communist men each, from 10 different countries in Europe. The units are to be trained in Spain, financed and equipped by the U.S., and act as a cadre and officer material for guerrilla, partisan, stay-behind and similar units operating against the Soviet Army in case of war. Skorzeny has stated that he is willing to assume leadership of the organization if the U.S. will support it. Plan B is said to have the endorsement of the Italian Prince Borghese, who, Skorzeny claims, has great influence in Italian rightist circles and with the Italian navy.
4. Skorzeny stated that he had offered his plans first to the U.S. Army and then to the French, and finally, finding no response from either, to the Spanish Ministry of the Army, Londoiz Grande. The latter, he said, had detailed a general staff colonel to work out details with Skorzeny, and the Spanish government had tentatively approved his plans pending concurrence of the U.S. government.
5. Skorzeny also stated that the French Press in January 1951 had printed an outline of Plan B without, however, mentioning Skorzeny's name. That publication he considered a basic approval of his project by the French government who, he believes, were testing world opinion and specifically Russian reaction to the plan by the publication. According to Skorzeny, the U.S. Military Attaché for Air in Madrid has recently invited him to discuss the matter and asked him whether he was prepared to develop his ideas in Washington. Skorzeny told his visitors that he had made his acceptance conditional upon the release of the remaining German military personnel imprisoned by the Allies. He is now expecting an answer from Washington.
6. Skorzeny said that he had been approached by Theodor Blank's Office for Accommodation of Occupation Troops in Bonn to discuss his plans. That offer, however, Skorzeny had declined, first, because Blank himself had similar plans which were, however, inadequate, and secondly, because he does not believe that Blank will ever find the necessary support from the ranks of the former German soldiers to carry out his scheme.
7. In July and August 1951 Skorzeny was in Germany and explained his plans to ex-General Heinz Guderian who approved them and promised to help. Skorzeny said that once he has received approval of his plans from Washington, he expects to invite Guderian to Madrid to discuss further implementation. In addition, Skorzeny stated he had established contact with various leading personalities in German veterans organizations. Among them are:
 - Hans Friesner, Chief of the new Veterans Organization (VDS)
(see MOF-774)
 - Gerd Spindler, well-to-do industrialist and supporter of various
rightist activities
(Admiral) Heys
 - (General) August Krakau, Chief of the Schutzbund Bavaria (see MOF-774
and VDS Exec. Comm.)
 - Karst Korsemann, SS General, one-time Security Chief of the White
Ruthenian Army Corps within the German Army
 - (ex-General) Karl Guempel**, member of the Executive Board of the VDS
 - (ex-General) Guenther Pape
 - (ex-Air Force General) Karl Koller, Bavarian Chief of the DvW and VDS
(see MOF-774), and
 - (ex-Paratroop General) Herman Bernhard Ramcke, a member of the Executive
Board of the VDS and Chief of the Paratroop Veterans

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8. Friesner, Skorzeny reported, had agreed to have all key officials of the Verband Deutscher Soldaten (VDS-Association of German Soldiers) elected rather than appointed. Thereupon Skorzeny advised his friends in Germany to rig the elections and thus infiltrate the entire organization by nominating young and active leaders to the various offices (don VDS mit jungen Fuehrungskraefte zu unterwandern). Concerning the recent controversy over the 20th of July personnel, Skorzeny stated that the matter was entirely overrated. The few people who really had something to do with the 20th of July, he said, can be eliminated in the elections. Therefore, public discussion of the matter is unnecessary and only harmful.

9. Skorzeny then related that he had met with Adenauer's Military Advisor, ex-General Dr. Hans Speidel, who had requested the meeting because Skorzeny had accused him of a lack of patriotism (mangelnde nationale Haltung). At their meeting Skorzeny reported Speidel had specifically underlined his nationalistic opinions and had suggested a close cooperation with Skorzeny. Skorzeny, however, had declined the offer.

10. Skorzeny then explained his estrangement from his former executive officer, Lt. Adell, now residing in Frankfurt, by the fact that Adell was an agent for French Intelligence and had reported to them on Skorzeny. Skorzeny, in turn, had received the report via the French General Staff and had thereupon severed all his connections with Adell. In Spain Skorzeny said he was in touch with the following personalities:

undoz Grande, Minister of the Army

Serrano Suñer (Franco's brother-in-law)

Nickolaus Franco (Franco's brother and a special contact of Skorzeny)

Graf de Montargo, Deputy to Suñer when the latter was Minister of Foreign Affairs

Josef Schoof, an ex-Nazi propaganda chief in Spain

Joan Bauverd, notorious international neo-fascist

as well as many members of the Spanish Army.

11. Skorzeny finally reported on his political plans. He stated that he hopes to form a rightist coalition movement in Western Germany and has plans to invite a number of German rightist politicians to Madrid in order to discuss the matter. So far his lists consist of:

Gerd Spindler

Karl Weissner of Der Deutsche Block

Gottfried Griessmayer, and

Christoph von Stauffenberg of the Deutsche Union,

as well as leading personalities from the DNE, the DK, and the FDP. At the same time he stated that he will lend his support to the international ultra-rightist movements, such as the MSI in Italy, the ESB in Germany, that he will maintain contact with Per Engdahl of Sweden, Maurice Fardeche of France, Otto Wilscher and ex-Colonel Hans Weiss in Germany. He also stated that he had permanent contacts with the French Intelligence, U.S. Intelligence, and that he had excellent connections in Spain, France, Germany, Portugal, Italy, Austria and other European countries.

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Field Comments:

* Skorzeny claimed to have been the subject of a discussion between U.S. High Commissioner John J. McCloy and German Chancellor Dr. Konrad Adenauer in June 1951. Then McCloy, according to Skorzeny, was unable to give Adenauer precise information on Skorzeny's activities in Spain, he promised to put U.S. intelligence agencies to work on the matter. Skorzeny said that his informant in U.S. intelligence circles had reported this conversation to him but that the same informant, by error, had also forwarded a message to Mr. McCloy according to which Skorzeny had specifically requested U.S. intelligence agencies in Madrid to inform Mr. McCloy of the fact that he, Skorzeny, was aware of the fact that he was an intelligence target.

** Gumpel was recently under fire from the press for remarks against the man connected with the 20th of July 1944 affair.

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